

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (Sunday excepted), is the largest and most widely circulated newspaper in Her Majesty's Province of Canada.

Resident Subscribers may have the "same sent to their residence at 15 cents per week by furnishing their address at the Office of Publication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST, published every Tuesday, will be mailed or sent to any address in Canada, by express, in 25 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY have received a large number of contracts for printing, and will, on a jobbing type, will execute orders to any extent with neatness and dispatch, at a slight advance on San Francisco prices.

IMPORTANT TO ADVERTISERS.

The proprietors of the COLONIST have refused to advertise for the Auctioneers of this city on the terms required by them, which terms have been accepted, under pressure, by the "Chronicle," beg to announce that from and after this date all Auction Advertisements will be inserted in this paper at the following rates:

FIRST INSERTION, 12¢ cts. per square
SECOND do 6¢ "

These charges are FIFTY PER CENT. LESS than those which the "Chronicle" has been bound for one year to demand, and Advertisers will therefore save FIFTY PER CENT. by ordering their Auction Advertisements to be inserted in the COLONIST.

HARRIES & CO.,
Proprietors.

Victoria, V. I., January 16th, 1864.

THE ESTIMATES.

There are some very remarkable features, as we pointed out on Saturday, in Mr. Wakeford's estimates. Other men in his position would have endeavored to show, before asking for so large an increase, that certain public works required urgent attention, and that the capacity of the inhabitants was fully equal to the demand made upon it. Mr. Wakeford, however, with an utter contempt for the ordinary laws of political economy, increases the number of public servants in proportion to the decrease of public work, and asks the people for an increased expenditure over that of 1864 of \$107,000, at a time when they are the least able to bear it. The expenses put forward by Mr. Wakeford's friends for this specimen of financing is that the country clamored for having its "resources developed," and that the Colonial Secretary was simply taking the country at the word of it.

Now, a little enquiry into the matter will show the incorrectness of the statement. Mr. Wakeford, with a demand upon the revenue for works and buildings, including the expense of harbor improvements, of nearly thirty thousand dollars less than the estimate last year, can only afford about \$21,000, additional to be spent on roads and bridges. There is \$25,000 for steam communication with Panama, and \$10,000 for immigration purposes—making in all but \$56,000 to be added to works of probable utility. The other \$50,000 that is added to the estimates of last year, which were in themselves far beyond the absolute necessities of our position, is simply a gratuitous demand. Instead of narrating the number of officials, and inquiring after an amount of retrenchment more in keeping with the condition of the country, we have the staff of officials almost doubled, and, while the salaries in some important offices are reduced, the newly manufactured appointments are made inordinately high. We have an increase to the salary of the Attorney General of nearly one hundred per cent.; but as if the addition to the salary called for more dignity and less work, we have an assistant subordinate lawyer—a Crown Solicitor—created to take some of the labor of Mr. Wood's hand. Now we do not object to the increase of the pay of the Attorney General—for the salary at present attached to the office is ridiculously inadequate; but to supplement this increase, which, if it were to have any effect at all, should undoubtedly make the recipients work harder, with the appointment of an assistant is simply preposterous. Then we have the police force. This department undoubtedly required reforming, and Mr. Wakeford, in a spirit of magnanimity, adds nine thousand dollars to its expenses, by creating no end of useless offices. When an energetic magistrate, with a good, working, shrewd sergeant of police for inspector was all that was really required to control and superintend the police force, we have a superintendent appointed at \$1940 and an inspector at \$1200—over \$3000 dollars, virtually thrown away. The host of ill paid subordinates, with the two "mounted troopers" cap the climax. What the police force wanted was not so much an increase in numbers as better pay to the subordinates who were already in the department. We find that Mr. Wakeford has half a dozen of constables at \$1.75 a day, each, and another half dozen at \$1.50—which, taking recent mysterious events into consideration, must be a strong guarantee for public security. Then we have an increase to the postal department of \$5,850—about two hundred per cent, over the expenses of last year. This increase is due to some extent to the separation of the office from that of the Harbourmaster, but is also owing to the expense of establishing postal facilities to the extent of

pay about for the mail bags. A daily mail to Bremerton, with a postmaster is rather an enterprising thing, but we are rather afraid it will be too expensive for either the requirements or the results. The average present correspondence with Esquimalt is, we believe, ten letters a day, which at five cents a letter would give 50 cents, or about \$150 a year. Mr. Wakeford must have very sanguine ideas in reference to the increased correspondence. The auditorship is a wonderful thing in its way. The other day it could be performed for \$750 a year; now it demands, without any increased labor, \$2,400. The Land Office has not escaped Mr. Wakeford's paternal hand. Not content with an Inspector of Roads, he must needs have an

Assistant Surveyor General. Mr. Pidwell, we can easily believe, well earns his money; but what a regularly appointed assistant surveyor is required for is something difficult to understand—least of all, however, can we understand the Government calling upon the colony to pay a department that is almost altogether connected with the Crown Lands. The same may be said of the Gold Commission. The mining licenses and receipts generally are carefully placed to the credit of the Crown lands, but through something that seems very like an oversight on the part of Mr. Wakeford, the official who collects the money is put down as charged to the colony. Then we come to paid Magistrates at Cowichan and Comox. The Colonial Secretary had better have taken a lead from the North American colonies and depend on the gratuitous services of a respectable settler in each of these districts. The cases requiring magisterial adjudications in either Cowichan or Comox are as rare as economy in the present estimates. Our space will not admit of going any farther into the matter to-day, but we may point to a fact that is worthy of notice—while last year's estimates (which we have already said were much too large for the amount of legitimate public works), leaving out the dredging expenses, \$230,000, the estimate of this year, minus the same expenses, are \$36,000, or about \$136,000 over the regular estimates of 1864:

NEW SOUTH WALES.

We take the following from the Sydney Morning Herald of the 21st September:—

A minor named William Williams has discovered in the neighborhood of Dandilly, a quartz reef of extraordinary richness. It is believed that the auriferous material will yield some hundreds of ounces to the ton.

AUS GOLD FIELDS.

Things remain exceedingly dull at all our goldfields, with the exception of Westrock, where the yield continues to be exceedingly small. The miners are not numerous, and the gold has yet been hit upon, the metal being found in leaders or feeders that are supposed to be tributaries to the main stream. These leaders are found at all manner of levels, appearing suddenly, and as suddenly breaking off; thus giving no clue to the whereabouts of the great deposit.

Upon most of the diggings, but more particularly upon those situated among the ridges of the high table land, the washers have been very severe. The heavy rains have been followed by extensive snow storms, which have delayed the prospectors very much, and rendered the work of mining still more exacting. In the western district of the colony it is said to have been more intense than it has been known to be for many years past: THE WESTERN GOLD FIELDS.

From the Wentworth we learn that the Golden Gate claim owner has been very lucky. Thirty-five tons of dirt were crushed and yielded 1,500 ozs. of gold. Spicer's claim has yielded 200 ozs., this month, from about 20 tons of dirt. The other claims are all active, engaged in work of various kinds, and there has been no general washing out, which by the test, the yield, though some of the dirt packed down by many of them is known to be exceedingly rich.

The Mount Pleasant Diggings, within a few miles of Bathurst, have not turned out so attractive as had been anticipated. There are not only some 40 or 50 persons on the ground.

A quartz claim has been taken up on the Camp Reserve, Forbes, only 70 or 80 yards from the Court House, and rich auriferous quartz has been obtained from the Britannia Reef. A report has also reached us by telegraph that a large deposit of gold has been found in a shallow ground upon a hill above the Marga line. It is not yet known whether the rich ground is a mere patch or whether the auriferous deposit is widely extended.

THE SOUTHERN GOLD FIELDS.

The new ground opened at Warrembunne, in the Braidwood district, is turning out very rich stuff, while from Araluen and Jamainbunbene the news is most encouraging. Already the Braidwood escort is growing in importance, and the signs of the improved times a number of men who were sufferers by the late floods at Araluen, and who were famished with work it is a claim at 30s. per week and rations, have struck for higher wages.

At Young very little is doing in the shape of mining, and complaints are general that over 100 men have been sent to be obtained upon the far famed Barrangaroo.

The Murraybridge Herald states that the prospects of the Gondal diggings are brigadier, up considerably; but we learn from other quarters that they have been declared by miners to be, with some few exceptions, a dead loss.

Kindly be informed, faithfully this winter from snow storms. Heavy snow drifts have cut off all communication with it, and even prevent the mail from travelling.

THE NORTHERN GOLD FIELDS.

We are altogether without mining news from the northern goldfields this month; but the cold, frosty weather that succeeded to the floods has, no doubt, greatly tended to prevent the miner from making his labor profitable in this quarter.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

APARTMENTS WANTED.

WANTED, IN A HOTEL OR PRIVATE House, for a lady and a girl, a comfortably furnished bedroom, with Parlor attached; Address A. B., at the offices of this paper. jail 1w

POCKET BOOK FOUND.

ON SATURDAY LAST, BETWEEN 12 AND 1 P.M., in the Victoria Market, containing several valuable papers. The owner can have the same by applying at the office of this paper, and paying for the advertisement. jail 1w

\$10 REWARD.

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W. K. BULL.

Thomas Patrick & Co.

DEALERS IN

Wines, Spirits, Ale and Porter, Cor. Government and Johnson streets,

VICTORIA, V. I.

Desirable Investment.

FOR SALE.

A WELL-KNOWN AND GOLD ESTATE, located Liquor Saloon, doing a profitable business, with a location, the proprietor desirous of retiring from business, the fixtures and fittings, will be sold without reserve.

For any one wishing to go into a ready-made business, this is an opportunity seldom to be met with.

W. Davison. (Two doors from St. Nicholas Hotel) jail GOVERNMENT STREET.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

COAL & WOOD.

D. KAVANAGH,
WHARF STREET.
(Near James Bay Bridge.)

OFFERS FOR SALE THE BEST QUALITY OF

Nanaimo Screened Coal,
2240 lbs. to the Ton, \$11.

BEST OAK WOOD,
5¢ PER CORD.

Best Pine Wood!
5¢ PER CORD.

Delivered FREE OF CHARGE to any part of the city by

D. KAVANAGH,
WHARF STREET.

Weight and Measurement Guaranteed.
jail 1s

BOARDING SCHOOL

FOR

YOUNG LADIES.

Mrs. WILSON BROWN,

CHURCH BANK HOUSE,

Victoria, V. I.

FATIGUES:

DR. HELMCKEN, Speaker House of Assembly

ALLEN FRANCIS, Esq., United States Consul

HENRY RHODES, Esq., M. H. M. Consul

jail 1s

Enterprise Hotel,

West side Government street,

(Between Yates and Johnson),

VICTORIA, V. I.

THE ESTIMATORS BEG TO INFORM

THEIR FIRM OF THE STATE OF THINGS THAT THEY HAVE

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COMMERCIAL.

VICTORIA MARKETS.

Trade in general during the past week has continued to be dull; the Flour and Grain market has remained quiet, but the meat market has been considerably quiet. Both British Columbia and are expected to open as the river is open to Yale. Market rates rule about as past last quotations, with a downward tendency.

The only arrival during the week has been the steamship Oregon, from San Francisco and Portland, with a cargo of \$15,000, the schooner Crosby from Portland, with produce to the amount of \$6,000, and the usual imports from the Sound steamers and coasting craft, amounting to \$7,000.

The exports of treasure per steamship Oregon, to San Francisco, were \$17,661. The exports of steamship Neanias for the past month were \$206 tons.

Boat rates are as follows:

BOAT-RATE rising (square) \$12 16 per ton, Extra (square) \$12 50¢ per ton, do do 13 16, Oregon boats 11 12.

CAVES-10¢ per lb.

BALLEY-1¢ do do 1¢ 4¢ 4¢.

MIDDLELINGS-3¢.

HAY-1¢ per lb.

POTATOES-2¢ per sack.

COFFEE-2¢ 25¢ per sack.

SUGARS-Raw 70¢ 80¢ do refined 12¢ 15 per sack.

CHOCOLATE-5¢ per lb.

BACON & HAMS-Primes 25¢ do ordinary 14¢ 20¢ per lb.

BAKED APPLES-10¢ per lb.

RAISINS-10¢ per lb.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF SIX LIVES.

The ship Leonida, Capt. French, arrived on Saturday from a trading voyage on the West coast, having on board the Captain and three survivors of the crew of the American bark Iowana of 206 tons register, which was thrown on her beam ends and subsequently lost on a reef of rocks on Nootka Sound during the violent gales that prevailed before and after Christmas last. Captain Morige and his men furnished the following particulars of the distressing event to Allen French, Esq., U.S. Consul:

The bark Iowana, of San Francisco, loaded with lumber at port Nicola, N.W. T. New York Mills, and left the mills on the 18th November, 1864. Nothing remarkable happened, until the 24th instant, after passing Cap Flattery Light, when was encountered a heavy gale from the eastward, and heavy seas from the southward. The bark sprang a leak, and in a short time was half full of water. At half past 11 p.m. a heavy squall from the eastward struck the bark and threw her on her beam ends, carrying away her masts and washing overboard three men, who were drowned, and she lay water and provisions on deck. In about an hour, the bark sprang another leak, and a spare rope we could find, and rigged a jury mast, and hoisted a sail on it to keep off the leak as long as possible. After drifting four days to the northward and westward, we struck a reef on Nootka Sound. We then launched a raft overboard, divesting ourselves of all clothing, except shirts and stockings, and got on the shore. The surf washed three men off from the raft, and they were drowned, leaving only four including the master. On the beach we met an Indian who guided us to his house, and after about three days took us in a canoe, about 30 miles to the southward, to Nootka Sound to another Indian camp, where we remained thirteen days, the Indians treating us very kindly, furnishing us with some clothing. We found the fortuitous prospector would not travel, but he described it as yielding rich pay, and the fact that he was "flush" of gold-dust gave credibility to his assertion.

DISLOYALTY.—A correspondent writes of the "treasonable" tendency of certain expressions made as of certain members of the Mechanics' Institute who attended, he says, the late debate on Cromwell and Charles. We have not published the letter, as we certainly cannot discover anything disloyal in one expressing a wish to be allowed to have had a discussion of Cromwell, or in another expressing a wish that we should have such another monarch as Charles I. God would send us another Cromwell to beseach him." They are in our mind the legitimate expressions of opinion called forth by free discussion, and which it is the object of all such debates to elicit.

THE CONFEDERATION BONANZA.—In a recent Canadian paper we find a prospectus of the proposed constitution for the federation of British North America, which contains the following clause providing for the admission of these colonies: X. The North-West territory, British Columbia, and Vancouver will be admitted into the Union of the Provinces of Canada. The Province shall be admitted, and shall receive the assent of her Majesty; and is the case of the Province of British Columbia or Vancouver, shall be agreed to by the Legislature of such Province.

PUBLIC ROTATION.—The following resolutions will be delivered by members of the Mechanics' Literary Institute tonight at 8 o'clock in Smith's Hall, Government street: "The Editor of the British Colonist, Sir—It is as refreshing to notice that you have in your impression of yesterday vented in this matter in which the Daily Colonist and the Star are in agreement, it is lamentable to witness the manner in which the Daily Colonist and the Star are recently contrived to be going to the same end, and are being everywhere copied, by swine allowed to run at large."

Yours respectfully, J. A. PAYNE.

THE FREE PORT AND ITS FRIENDS.

To THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir.—The few remaining supporters of Free trade policy for this island must be a very easily satisfied set of individuals if they are contented with a partial victory. An easy victory can be found in the support of Vancouver Times. For certain it is that the Free Port Provisions shall be admitted, and shall receive the assent of her Majesty; and is the case of the Province of British Columbia or Vancouver, shall be agreed to by all means empower the police to shoot them.

It is said that the Acting Surveyor General and Road Commissioners have prepared a new Road Act. If so, it is to be hoped that the hog unities has not been forgotten in it.

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To THE EDITOR OF THE BRITISH COLONIST.—Sir.—The few remaining supporters of Free trade policy for this island must be a very easily satisfied set of individuals if they are contented with a partial victory. An easy victory can be found in the support of Vancouver Times. For certain it is that the Free Port Provisions shall be admitted, and shall receive the assent of her Majesty; and is the case of the Province of British Columbia or Vancouver, shall be agreed to by all means empower the police to shoot them.

It is said that the Acting Surveyor General and Road Commissioners have prepared a new Road Act. If so, it is to be hoped that the hog unities has not been forgotten in it.

